

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## The Emsworth Show

Dennis Doye

The Emsworth Horticultural Society Show Committee are pleased to confirm that preparations are well in hand to ensure that this popular event in the Emsworth calendar will again be taking place on August Bank Holiday Monday at the Jubilee Recreation Ground in Horndean Road. Arena events and entertainers are being booked, stallholders are already requesting space and the giant marquee has been reserved. Free Show Schedules containing further information and details of the 240 horticultural and other competitions open to everybody will be available from June in the library, but in the meantime, so the photographers amongst you can get snapping early, the following subjects have already been chosen for this years show competitions:

- A. Print Size min 10" X 8"; max 16" X 12"
  - (1) Any subject of your choice
  - (2) Close-Up Full Bloom
  - (3) Reflections
  - (4) Down the garden path
  - (5) Out and about in Emsworth
- B. Print Size max 7" X 5"
  - (1) Any subject of your choice.
  - (2) Sunrise and/or sunset – four pictures to be mounted on a board.

We look forward to seeing the usual excellent pictorial display at the Show.

The children's potato-in-a-bucket growing competition will also be taking place for primary school children up to the age of 11. Collect a Bucket, Seed Potato, and Entry Form from the society's 'Hut' at the Washington Road allotment site on Sunday mornings between 9.30am and 12 before the end of April, see how large a crop can be grown by Show Day. (Prizes!)



Philippa Chandler with her prize winning crop of Isle of RHUM potatoes at the 2005 Emsworth Show

Incidentally anyone out there who would like to be involved in any one of the many varied aspects of the running of the Show - and help ensure its continuance in the future - would be very welcome to join the present 21 strong committee. For an exploratory chat please call John Lemm, Chairman on 01243 372901 or Daphne Tomsett on 01243 374633.

## They are the Future!

Brendan Gibb-Gray

Many of Emsworth's youngest residents are helping to shape the future of our town. Pupils from Emsworth Primary and St James' schools have been voicing their opinions and taking soundings about the good and not so good things about the community. This action to involve them in the 'Health Check' currently being carried out by members of Emsworth Market Town Initiative (MTI) is geared to ensure we get a complete picture of life in Emsworth from all segments of the community.

I have been working with the Schools Council to get their views and those of their parents and friends. In fact, it was the children themselves who came up with the idea of asking their parents and friends structured questions as part of their homework!



St. James' Council

In general the children from both schools felt that Emsworth was a good place to live and in particular loved the seashore, crabbing and cycling. They also appreciated being close to the wonderful countryside around Emsworth. Many of the children felt that traffic volumes and speed constituted a serious danger particularly where the pavements are very narrow such as Horndean Road and North Street near the bridges. However, they had serious concerns about the state of our streets and pavements citing dog excrement, litter and graffiti as being particularly bad in some parts of the town.

The train station and nearby bridges came in for strong criticism for being dirty and unsightly. Many children and their parents also thought our library was too small with access difficult for people with push chairs/buggies. One young lad from Emsworth Primary School said, "I know the library is too small, because I have read all the children's books and there is no more room for more".

The children have produced some interesting observations and comments and they have made a huge contribution to the work we are currently undertaking. We should be very proud of their work and we will take their views seriously when considering improvements in Emsworth. The full findings of the children and other people taking part in the MTI Health Check will be reported in due course.

## Bowling Club Open Day

Bryan Oldaker

On Saturday 6 May, Emsworth Bowling Club will be holding an Open Day for anyone interested in trying the sport of bowling. No prior experience is required and no special clothing is needed although we do ask that you wear flat-soled shoes to protect the green.

The club will be open from 1.30 to 4p.m. and anyone interested in having a bowl is invited to come along. Bowls will be provided and there will be experienced bowlers on hand to give tuition and advice. This is completely free of charge and you might even get a cup of tea or coffee!

The club, which is situated near to the new Skatepark on the far side of the Horndean Road Recreation Ground, caters for bowlers of all abilities and new members can take advantage of tuition from our county coaches or from other highly experienced bowlers. Emsworth is a very friendly club and throughout the year we have a busy social calendar for both bowlers and 'social members'.

If you have ever thought that you might like to have a try or wished to know more about the sport, and Emsworth Bowling Club in particular, without having to make any commitment, now is your chance. Everyone is welcome, irrespective of age or ability. Come along, roll a few woods, and you might be the next World Champion!

## Bourne Quilters

Sheila Lillington

The Bourne Quilters was founded in 1997 by four ladies who met to share their interest in quilting. The group has now grown to 70 members with a waiting list.

The group meet every first Monday of the month at the Community Centre in Emsworth. The meetings consist of sewing sessions, talks by professional teachers of patchwork and quilting as well as visits by other groups in the area. We also hold 1-day workshops throughout the year on various techniques of patchwork and quilting.

The Show on 29 and 30 July is in aid of The Rowans Hospice. There will be a display of Quilts, Wall Hangings, Demonstrations and many other smaller items on display as well as a Sales Table of handmade items. The times of opening are 10am- 4pm both days.

Further information from Sheila Lillington Tel 023 92 475958.

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## Shopmobility still available in Emsworth

If you have mobility problems, you can hire an electric Scooter by the hour, day or week to visit the shops, travel around Emsworth to call on friends, or simply spend an hour or so sitting watching the swans on the millpond.

Occasional users will be charged £4 for the minimum period of 2 hours or £6 for a whole day.

To hire a scooter for a longer period, you need to become a member of the scheme. Membership costs £5 and you can then hire by the week for £20 or for shorter periods for half the non-member costs i.e. £2 for up to 2 hours, or £3 for a whole day.

For more details, telephone Bruce Hailstone on 01243 373777.

## May Day's Arts Trail

Elaine Clarke

The Emsworth Arts Trail has proved to be such a popular success that it is going to be expanded across the Borough in May 2006.

The new May Day's Arts Trail will be launched at Havant Arts Centre on 1 May, 10am to 4pm where artists will be working in and around the building and the Making Space craft team will be running family workshops.

The trail will run over four weekends starting in Emsworth where it all began on 6-7 May, Havant 13-14 May, Hayling 20-21 May and Waterlooville 27-28 May. A record number of Artists and Makers are taking part this year from painters to sculptors, jewellers and ceramists.

If you require any further information please contact Elaine Clarke, Arts Development Officer at Havant Borough Council on 023 9244 6421. Trail brochures will be available from Emsworth Library.

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